

CIS 3362 8/31/22

message → brackets  
substitution

null char,  
code words → adjustment

Vigenere Cipher (Unbreakable Code!)

Plaintext: IT IS VERY | HOT OUTSIDE  
Keyword: KNIGHTSK | KNIGHTSKNIG

Shift by

	8	19	8	18	21	4	17	24
+	10	13	8	6	7	19	18	10
<hr/>								
	18	32	16	24	28	23	35	34
		↓		↓		↓	↓	
		6		2		9	8	
		18, 6,	16, 24,	2,	23,	9, 8		
		S G Q	Y C	X J I	...			

advantages: (1) easier to remember

\*(2) freq info distorted

2 T's can encrypt to 2 diff letters

2 diff letters can encrypt to same letter

disadvantage: (1) easier to "guess" at a keyword.

TO DO: Code up Java version encryption

# Breaking Vigenere

letter freq not preserved BUT  
some plaintext chars are shifted by the  
same amount!

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14  
K N I G H T S K N I G H T S K

letters pos 0, 7, 14, ... same shift  
letters pos 1, 8, 15, ... same shift  
...  
letters pos 6, 13, 20, ... same shift

we have  
|K| #  
of bins  
where each  
bin has  
correct letter  
frequencies.

Issues - bins will have fewer chars  
than for reg sub.

- won't get digraph, trigraph into!

# How to deal w/ issues

(1) repeated digram<sup>ms</sup> trigram<sup>ms</sup>

Imagine I use the same word 5 times.

keyword length was 8.

list 5 random #s from set  $\{0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7\}$   
each chosen independently. What's probability  
they are all different?

6, 3, 4, 1, 7

$$1 \times \frac{7}{8} \times \frac{6}{8} \times \frac{5}{8} \times \frac{4}{8} \approx 20\%$$

80% chance that the repeated word is  
encrypted identically!!!

Kasiski - repeated digram

⇒ likely means same plaintext

⇒ difference in the indexes is  
divisible by the keyword length.

→ (1) find all repeats

(2) record all differences in index

(3) GCD all #s in step.